



Central South Dakota Outdoor Report

Wildlife Division – Region 2



Brule/Buffalo Counties

Diana Schroeder



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

The walleye bite has slowed down recently in the Chamberlain area. Fishermen have been catching smaller walleyes 14-16 inches in the Chamberlain area. The walleye bite has slowed down at Ft. Thompson as well. The minimum length restriction is 15 inches with one walleye over 20 inches. The daily possession limit is 4 walleyes. The fish cleaning stations are open in the Chamberlain area and Ft. Thompson. The area between the Interstate Bridge and Railroad Bridge is open to fishing from a boat until December.

Be sure to double check your boat safety equipment (sufficient life jackets for everyone on board, fire extinguisher, and a throw able device) and boat registration before hitting the water.



Hunting Report:

The 2014 Hunting and Trapping Handbooks are now available!

The September Canada Goose season opened September 1st through the 30th. Daily limit 15 doves and a possession limit of 45 doves. Be sure to check the boundaries of the open areas in Brule and Buffalo Counties. The boundary includes SD Hwy 34, east of Lees Blvd; southeast to SD Hwy 34; east 7 miles to 350th Ave; south to I-90 on 350th Ave; south and east on SD Hwy 50 to Geddes. An annual small game or combination license, state migratory bird certification, and federal waterfowl stamp are required for hunting this season. Canada Geese have been reported in the southeast portion of Brule County near Torey Lake. Canada goose season, Unit 2, is closed west of Hwy 50 south down to 350th Ave until November 3rd. This area includes Red Lake.

Duck season in the Low Plains zone opened September 27th east of Hwy 50. The High Plain Zone opened October 11th which includes west of Hwy 50. Several hunters have reported harvesting ducks near the Holoubek Game Production Area south of Kimball.

Dove season opened September 1st until November 9th. Daily limit 15; possession limit 45. Dove shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. A person may not hunt mourning doves on or within 50 yards of a public road. A person may not shoot a mourning dove unless the bird is flying. A person may not hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than 3 shells. A small game license and migratory bird certification is required. The doves are starting to leave the area due to colder weather.

Prairie chicken and grouse season opened September 20th. Landowners have reported seeing increased grouse numbers in the Chamberlain area this year.

Pheasant brood routes numbers have increased 76% more than last year state-wide. The regular pheasant season opened for residents and nonresidents on October 18th. Hunters reported seeing any roosters on the public hunting areas near Chamberlain.

Youth/Mentor deer season opened September 13th.

Bow season for deer opened September 27th state wide.

Fall turkey season opens November 1st. There have been reports of turkeys on Boyer GPA recently.

Campbell County

Doug DeLaRoi



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below*

No Report



Hunting Report:

No Report

Corson/Dewey Counties

Shawn Madison:



Fishing Report:

Pudwell Dam: Good fish populations including several year classes of walleye, largemouth bass, crappie, and perch. Fishing activity has been low.

Morristown East: No activity but stocking efforts past two years has been successful for largemouth and crappies. Fish size is small. Some northern pike.

Morristown West: No activity. perch stockings have been successful ranging from 8-10 inches.

Trail City Dam: Little to no activity and a lot of small northern pike showed up in surveys.

Little Moreau #1: Activity low but casting lures are good for pike and bass. Some large crappies and bluegill.

Little Moreau #2: Catching nice size rainbow trout on lures and corn with salmon eggs. Stocked 1200 Rainbow trout in the beginning of June 2014. Another stocking of 1200 rainbows the third week of September.

Isabel Lake: Some activity. Walleyes being caught using trolling crank baits and spinners. Largemouth bass have been biting. Nice population of bluegill, some large being caught. Fish from the new fishing dock.

Eagle Butte Dam: Little activity. Year classes of bluegill look very good ranging from 6-8 inches. Bass numbers are very good as well as perch



Hunting Report:

Unit 1 Canada Goose opened on September 1st as well. Lots of local geese in the area. Hunters should have plenty of luck. Do your scouting and don't forget to ask permission. Grouse is open, hatch was fair but numbers are still low. Hunters had mixed success but overall a good experience. 70 percent of the harvest was young birds. Some reports of partridge in spots. Pheasant opens this weekend, numbers are better than last year but still below the ten year average

Charles Mix/Douglas Counties
Jeff Martin



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

Anglers are starting to catch some fish. South has been better than north. Most are fishing deep in the 30ft range. Weekend weather looks great to catch some fish in the morning and do some hunting in the afternoon / evening.



Hunting Report:

The bite is getting warmed up, most successful anglers report pulling crank baits in deep water. Lots of baitfish in the system.

Gregory County
Hans Walleser



Fishing Report:

No Report



Hunting Report:

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Conservation Officer Hans Walleser at 605-775-2475 or PO Box 433 Burke, SD 57523. Have fun. Be safe.

Hyde/Hand Counties

Cory Flor



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below*

There were 400 rainbow trout stocked in Crystal Pond at Crystal Park in Miller. There will be a small youth fishing derby on October 26 from noon until 2pm. The pond is open to anyone 17 yrs. old and younger.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant hunters did well opening weekend and have been doing fair over the last few days.

Hughes County

John Murphy



Fishing Report:

Fishing from West Bend to Spring Creek has been slow, catching some catfish in the Oahe tailrace and occasional walleye at night on plugs.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant hunters have been doing well in thick cover. Hunters are averaging 2.5 birds per hunter. Pheasant hunters are reminded to wear hunter orange for safety. Archery deer hunters are seeing more deer and should continue to see plenty of deer with harvest in full swing now.

Road Hunting Rules

Hunting on Public Road Rights-of-Way

Laws and rules governing trespass and motor vehicles are complex. The laws may be simplified if the hunter

remembers to hunt only on foot during established seasons, to ask permission to enter private land, and not to drive on state and federal lands. It is also advisable to restrict vehicular travel in wet weather when roads, trails, rangeland, and cropland could be damaged and in dry conditions when fire danger is high.

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS: Hunters who hunt road rights-of-way should understand they must

maintain control of their hunting dogs at all times. Dog owners who allow their animals to remain

on private property without landowner permission for the purpose of flushing game birds may be subject to trespassing charges. Dogs may be used in the unarmed retrieval of lawfully taken waterfowl and small game birds from private property. However, under no circumstances may dogs be used to intentionally flush birds from private property to hunters in the road rights-of-way.

Road rights-of-way, excluding the Interstate highway system, are open for the hunting of small game

and waterfowl (see Mourning Dove, Youth Pheasant, and Resident-Only Pheasant seasons for special

road hunting restrictions). However, no person, except the adjoining landowner or any person receiving

written permission from the adjoining landowner, may use such highways or rights-of-way for the purposes

of discharging any firearm or for the purposes of hunting within a 660-foot safety zone surrounding an

occupied dwelling, a church, schoolhouse, or livestock. Neither the person discharging a firearm at small

game nor the small game being shot at may be within the 660-foot safety zone.

The rights-of-way along a section line or other highway is open for hunting if:

1. The rights-of-way has been commonly used by the public for vehicular travel, as demonstrated

by the existence of a well-worn vehicle trail.

2. An intentional alteration or adaptation has been made to the rights-of-way to enhance the natural

terrain's utility for vehicular travel or to permit vehicular travel where it was not possible before.

NOTE: Fences are sometimes not on a rights-of-way boundary and sometimes there is no fence. Most

section line rights-of-way are 66 feet wide. Some acquired rights-of-way are wider.

- Hunters can take only small game (except mourning doves) and waterfowl within the rights-of-way

on foot. The hunter must be within the rights-of-way and the game must have taken flight from within

or be flying over the rights-of-way

- The person must park or stop their vehicle as far to the right-hand side of the road as possible

- If the person who discharges a firearm is more than 50 yards from the vehicle, the doors on the

side of the vehicle nearest the roadway must be closed, but the engine may remain running

- If the person who discharges a firearm is less than 50 yards from the vehicle, all of the doors of the

vehicle must be closed and the engine shall be turned off

- It is NOT legal to shoot small game and waterfowl that takes flight from rights-of-way over a Federal Refuge or Indian Tribal Trust lands. If a state-licensed hunter shoots at a bird across the fence on either of these lands, the hunter may be subject to arrest by U.S. Fish & Wildlife officers
- Small game and waterfowl taken from the rights-of-way but falling onto private property can be retrieved by unarmed hunters on foot
- No person may discharge a fi rearm, muzzleloader, crossbow or bow and arrow at any big game animal, except turkey to be taken with a shotgun using shot shells or with a bow and arrow, from within the rights-of-way of an improved public highway
- A person may not discharge a fi rearm or other weapon across or from any Black Hills National Forest system road
- Any person who, while hunting road rights-of-way, negligently endangers another person, or puts that person in fear of imminent serious bodily harm, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor

Jones County

Brian Ridgway



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below
No Report



Hunting Report:
No Report

Lyman County

Brian Ridgway



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below
No Report



Hunting Report:
No Report

Potter County

Brad Saltsman



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below:*

Potts Dam – No Activity,
Lake Hurley –No Activity
Simon Dam – No Activity.

Missouri River – fishing is very slow from Swan Creek south to the Sully County line. Anglers are reporting decent catches of walleye in the Morreau River. Salmon fishing is picking up in the Whitlock Bay area.



Hunting Report:

Dove – There are very few doves left in Potter and Walworth counties

Waterfowl – Hunting is better in the northeast corner of Potter County around the Tolstoy area. Several small lakes and sloughs have been holding resident geese.

Grouse – There are very few grouse in Potter and southern Walworth counties. Hunters will find the grouse in NW Potter and SW Walworth counties.

Deer – Archery Deer is underway. Potter County has a good deer population.

Pheasants – the regular season begins Saturday. Season begins at noon. There are good numbers

Stanley County

Josh Thompson



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below.

Fishermen are reminded that the daily limit for walleye is 4, of which only 1 of those 4 walleye may be 20 inches or longer.

The minimum length limit for walleye caught on Lake Sharpe is 15 inches.

Twin Dams – Little fishing activity observed.

Hayes Lake – Little fishing activity observed.

Ft. Pierre Nat. Grasslands – Fishermen have been having some luck catching crappie and perch.

Lake Oahe – Anglers have been catching fish up at Cow Creek & Minneconjou. Seeing some healthy looking fish coming from these areas.

Lake Sharpe – Catfish bite has been pretty good at the mouth of the Bad River and in the tailraces.



Hunting Report:

GFP encourages bird hunters to wear orange to be safe and be seen while hunting.

Daily limit for pheasants is 3 rooster pheasants

Pheasant – We are seeing a good amount of birds this year. Both Stanley County and the Fort Pierre Grasslands offer good areas to find some birds.

Grouse – Still seeing a good mix of sharp-tailed grouse and prairie chicken. Grouse can be a fun bird to hunt to add a little variety to your bag.

For any further information, Game, Fish & Parks hunting and fishing handbooks are available at local licensing agents; or you can visit the SD Game, Fish & Parks website at www.gfp.sd.gov.

Sully County

Andy Schmahl



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below.

No Report



Hunting Report:

No Report

Tripp/Todd/Mellette Counties

Chris Dekker



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

No Report



Hunting Report:

No Report

Walworth County
Doug DeLaRoi/Brad Saltsman



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below*
No Report



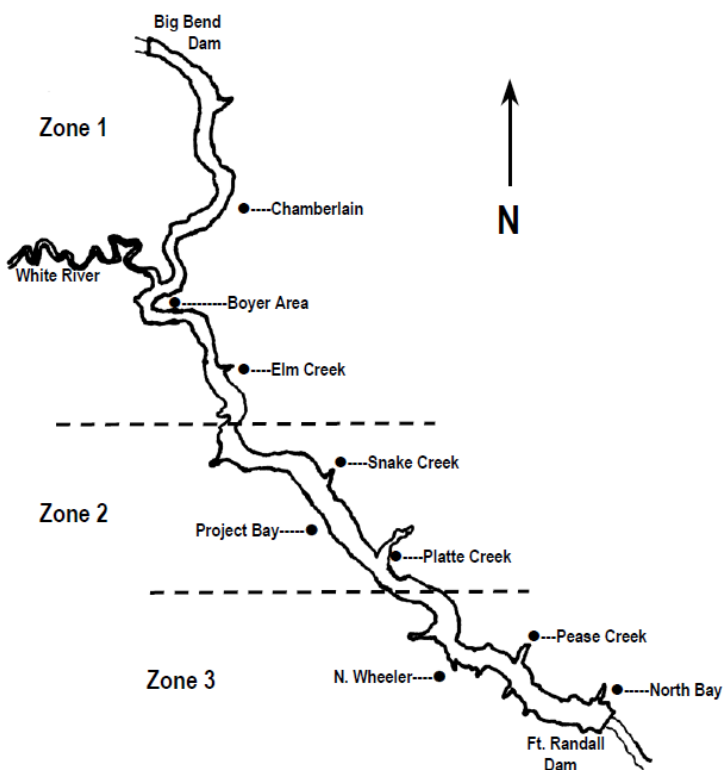
Hunting Report:
No Report

Missouri River report:

Lake Oahe and Lake Sharpe
Kyle Potter

Lake Oahe
No Report

Lake Sharpe
No Report



Lake Francis Case
Rachel Tribble

Zone 1 – The walleye bite has been tough throughout the upper third of the reservoir. Anglers are catching some smaller fish, and very few limits are being brought in. Shore anglers around the Chamberlain area seem to be catching more fish than the boat anglers.

Zone 2 – No fishing activity observed in this area.

Zone 3 – No fishing activity observed in this area.

Reminder: Walleye/Sauger daily limit is 4 fish per day.
The minimum length limit is 15" and the daily limit may
include no more than one walleye/sauger 20" or longer.